

Reply to Final Office Action of December 19, 2005
Amendment Dated: February 6, 2006

Appl. No.: 10/708,800
Attorney Docket No.: H0005591

REMARKS

Claims 1-13 were examined in the outstanding office action mailed on 12/19/2005 (hereafter "Outstanding Office Action"). Applicants note with appreciation that claims 7, 13 and 14 were allowed, and that claims 3-6 and 9-12 were indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form. In response, claims 1, 3 and 9 are sought to be canceled and claims 2, 4-6, 8, and 10-12 are sought to be amended without prejudice or disclaimer. The cancellations and amendments are believed not to introduce new matter and their entry is respectfully requested. Claims 2, 4-8 and 10-14 are thus presented for consideration, further in view of the below remarks.

Objections

Claim 9 has been objected to noting that it should probably depend from claim 8 (not claim 7, as previously recited). The objection is rendered moot in view of the cancellation of claim 9.

Claims 11 and 12 were also objected to requiring corresponding corrections. The errors are believed to be due to invisible characters present in the previous claims. The invisible characters have been removed and thus the noted problems are believed to be fixed.

Allowable Subject Matter

Independent claim 2 is sought to be amended to (at least substantially) include the features of claim 3, indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Accordingly independent claim 2 is believed to be in condition for allowance.

Independent claims 7 and 13 have been indicated to be allowable in the Outstanding Office Action.

Independent claim 8 is sought to be amended to (at least substantially) include the features of claim 9, indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Accordingly independent claim 9 is believed to be in condition for allowance.

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Thus, all the independent claims presented for consideration are believed to be in condition for allowance. The dependent claims are also allowable at least as dependent from dependent base claims.

Conclusion

30 Thus, all the objections and rejections are believed to be overcome, at least in view of the above amendments and remarks, and that all the presented claims are in condition for allowance. The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned representative if it is believed that an interview might be useful for any reason.

Respectfully submitted,



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